

3. (Amended) A method of producing a negative electrode by applying a negative electrode black mix containing a negative electrode material composed of a mixture of a non-carbon material and a carbon material on a negative electrode collector and drying the negative electrode black mix, comprising the step of:

applying the negative electrode black mix on the negative electrode collector and drying the negative electrode black mix in an inert gas atmosphere or a dry air atmosphere,

wherein a ratio of an average particle size  $R_M$  of the non-carbon material in the negative electrode material to an average particle size  $R_C$  of the carbon material in the negative electrode material is in a range of  $R_M/R_C \leq 1$ .

4. (Amended) A method of producing a negative electrode using a negative electrode black mix containing a negative electrode material composed of a mixture of a non-carbon material and a carbon material, comprising the step of:

hot-pressing the negative electrode black mix,

wherein a ratio of an average particle size  $R_M$  of the non-carbon material in the negative electrode material to an average particle size  $R_C$  of the carbon material in the negative electrode material is in a range of  $R_M/R_C \leq 1$ .

6. (Amended) A method of producing a non-aqueous electrolyte battery, including a positive electrode containing a lithium composite oxide; a negative electrode containing a negative electrode material composed of a mixture of a non-carbon material in or from which lithium is doped or released and a carbon material, said negative electrode being disposed opposite to the positive electrode; and a non-aqueous electrolyte interposed between the positive electrode and the negative electrode, said method comprising the step of:

winding the negative electrode into a wound body in an inert gas atmosphere or a dry air atmosphere,

wherein a ratio of an average particle size  $R_M$  of the non-carbon material in the negative electrode material to an average particle size  $R_C$  of the carbon material in the negative electrode material is in a range of  $R_M/R_C \leq 1$ .